



Bitterroot National Forest

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Relatively Quiet Day on the Bitterroot – Two New Fire Starts

HAMILTON, MT; JULY 17, 2007. --- The lightning storm on Monday evening brought with it spotty rain, strong winds, a flashy lightning show, and 13 new starts. Eleven showed up before the evening ended yesterday; two new starts showed up today.

- The Mountain House fire on private land near Gird Point is one acre in size. The Forest is responding with three engines and helicopter support.
- The Eastman fire is approximately 1/10 of an acre and is located in the Skalkaho drainage.

Lookouts and air patrol continue to monitor for additional new starts or "hold overs" that may show up in the days ahead. Additional initial attack crews arrived from Arizona and Alaska and a temporary fire camp, established at the Darby School, will serve as the base camp from which these supplemental initial attack crews will be dispatched.

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